The Pyongyang Times

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The Great Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG

Receives New Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Arab Republic of Egypt to DPRK

On March 3 the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and his wife received Hassan Shukri Saleh Salim, new Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the DPRK, and his wife.

On hand was Comrade Ho Dam, Vice-Premier of the Administration Council and Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung had a talk with the ambassador in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The Great Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG's Immortal Classic Works Published

in Various Countries in Pamphlet Form and Carried by Papers and Magazines

The collection **"Duty of Literature and Art in Our Revolution"** dealing with immortal classic works of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung was brought out by the "Noal" publishing house in Mexico.

The great leader's immortal classic work **"Talk with the Managing Editor of the Japanese Politico-Theoretical Magazine 'Sekai'"** came off the press in Burma in pamphlet form and his another immortal classic work **"The Non-Alignment Movement Is a Mighty Anti-Imperialist Revolutionary Force of Our Times"** was put out by the "Al Karaban" publishing house of Colombia also in pamphlet form.

The collection and pamphlets were accompanied by an inset august picture of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

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The immortal classic work of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung **"On the Occasion of the Creation of the Korean People's Army"** was carried by the Pakistan papers *"Imroze"*, *"Musawat"*, *"Hilali Pakistan"*, *"Sewasar"*, *"Aptab"*, *"Elan"*, *"Islami Zamhuria"* and *"Dailu Sind Times"* and Pakistan magazines *"Al Fata"* and *"Meyar"* and by the Indian papers *"Statesman"* and *"Patriot"*.

In its preface, the Pakistan paper *"Imroze"* stressed that the Korean people were greeting the 29th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army, their revolutionary armed forces which inherited the brilliant revolutionary traditions of the anti-Japanese armed struggle organized and waged by President Kim Il Sung.

It pointed out:

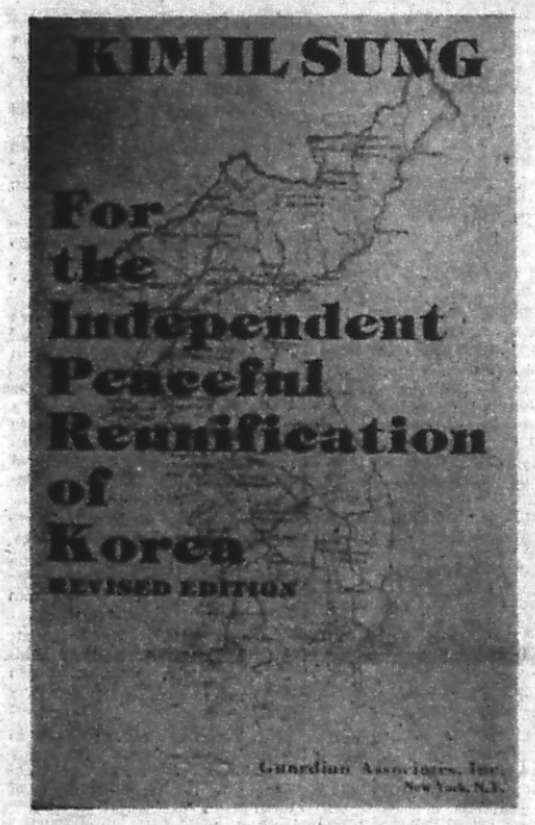
The Korean People's Army is invincible, for it is armed with the immortal Juche idea founded by the respected and beloved leader President Kim Il Sung.

Today the KPA is reliably defending its country and people, frustrating at every step the new war provocation manoeuvres of the imperialists.

Printed by the foreign press were the immortal classic works of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung—**"The Korean People's Army Is the Successor to the Anti-Japanese Armed Struggle"** by the Pakistan journal *"Nusrat"* and Pakistan papers *"Musawat"* and *"Hilali Pakistan"*; **"On the 20th Anniversary of the Founding of the Korean People's Army"** by the Indian papers *"Mewat"*, *"Sunhari Parol"* and *"Events"*; the full texts of **"Answers to the Questions Put by the Foreign Editor of the Yugoslav News Agency Tanjug"** and **"Talk with Journalists of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan"** by the Colombian paper *"El Sol"*; **"On Revolutionizing and Working-classizing Women"** and **"Answers to Questions Raised by a Delegation of the National Association of Senegalese Journalists"** by the Ghanaian paper *"People's Evening News"*.

Foreign publications carried a number of immortal classic works of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung. For instance, the Pakistan paper *"Magrabi Pakistan"* printed **"On Speeding Up Construction of Socialism in the Countryside,"** the first part of **"On Speeding Up Construction of Socialism in the Countryside and Solidly Developing the Counties"** and its second part **"On Solidly Developing the Counties and Enhancing Their Role"**; the Sudanese paper *"Al Ayam"* carried **"The Struggle of the Government of the Republic for the Socialist Revolution and Building of Socialism"**, the first part of **"Let Us Further Strengthen the Socialist System of Our Country"**; the Guyanan paper *"Guyana Chronicle"* published the gist of **"On the Occasion of the Creation of the Korean People's Army"**; the magazine of the Yemen Arab Republic *"Al Ikhtishad Wa Thizoara"* gave the content from Chapter I to Chapter IV of **"Socialist Constitution of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea"**; the Zambian paper *"Daily Mail"* carried the first part of **"The Korean People's Army Is the Successor to the Anti-Japanese Armed Struggle."**

The papers and magazines printed portraits of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung in place of honour.



The collection "For the Independent Peaceful Reunification of Korea" containing immortal classic works of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung published in New York

The Great Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG

Sends Telegrams of Sympathy to Mozambican, Romanian and Bulgarian Presidents

Comrade SAMORA MOISES MACHEL

President of the People's Republic of Mozambique

Maputo

I heard the unhappy news that recently the capital and various other areas of Mozambique, hit by a flood, suffered big damages including a loss of life.

In this connection I express deep sympathy and consolation to Your Excellency and, through Your Excellency, to the people in the afflicted areas.

I firmly believe that the government and people of Mozambique under your correct leadership will recover from the flood damages as early as possible and stabilize the life of the people in the afflicted areas.

KIM IL SUNG

President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Pyongyang, February 27, 1977

Comrade NICOLAE CEAUSESCU

General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party President of the Romanian Socialist Republic

Bucharest

I have heard news of heavy damages caused by a big earthquake in some areas of Romania.

I, in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Korean people and in my own name, express deep sympathy and consolation to you and, through you, to the people of the afflicted areas.

I firmly believe that under the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party headed by you, the fraternal Romanian people will recover from the earthquake damages and stabilize the life of the people in the afflicted areas in a short period.

KIM IL SUNG

General Secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK President of the DPRK

Pyongyang, March 6, 1977

Comrade TODOR ZHIVKOV

First Secretary of the Central Committee of the BCP President of the State Council of the BPR

Sofia

Upon hearing the news that some areas of Bulgaria suffered damages by an earthquake, I, in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Korean people and myself, express deep sympathy and consolation to you and, through you, to the people in the afflicted areas.

I firmly believe that the fraternal Bulgarian people under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party headed by Comrade Todor Zhivkov will recover from the earthquake damages and stabilize the life of the people in the afflicted areas at an early date.

KIM IL SUNG

General Secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK President of the DPRK

Pyongyang, March 11, 1977

TELEGRAMS

✦ The great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent a message of greetings to **Macias Nguema Biyogo Neguendong**, Life President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, on the complete independence day of the revolutionary working people of Equatorial Guinea.

✦ The great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, President of the DPRK, sent a message of greetings to I.K. **Acheampong**, Chairman of the National Redemption Council of the Republic of Ghana, on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the independence of Ghana.

✦ The great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, President of the DPRK, sent a message of greetings to **Hafez Al Assad**, President of the Syrian Arab Republic, on the occasion of the day of the Syrian Revolution.

✦ The great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, sent a message of greetings to **U Ne Win** upon his reelection as Chairman of the Burmese Socialist Programme Party.

✦ The great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, General Secretary of the CC of the WPK and President of the DPRK, received a message from Comrade **Fidel Castro Ruz**, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and President of the State Council of the Republic of Cuba, in reply to his message of greetings sent to the latter on the 18th anniversary of the victory of the Cuban Revolution.

✦ The great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, President of the DPRK, received a message from **Mohammed Anwar El Sadat**, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and President of the First Afro-Arab Summit Conference, in reply to his message of greetings to the First Afro-Arab Summit Conference.

✦ The great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, President of the DPRK, received a message from **Didier Ratsiraka**, President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, in reply to his message of sympathy sent to the latter in connection with the fact that some areas of Madagascar including her capital suffered great damages from the recent cyclone and flood.

✦ The great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, President of the DPRK, received a message from **Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah**, Emir of the State of Kuwait, in reply to his message of greetings sent on the occasion of the national day of the State of Kuwait.

✦ The great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, President of the DPRK, received a message from **Mohammed Daud** in reply to his message of greetings sent upon the latter's election as President of the Republic of Afghanistan.

IN SUPPORT OF NEW SAVE-THE-NATION PROPOSAL

The Great Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG

Receives Messages and Letters of Solidarity

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received messages and letters of solidarity supporting the new save-the-nation proposal put forward by the joint meeting of political parties and public organizations held in Pyongyang on January 25, which came from:

Eduard Hafner, General Secretary of the Swiss Progressive Organizations and Chairman of the Swiss Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification; Werner Karovio, General Secretary of the Independent Socialist Party of Switzerland; Jorge Del Prado, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Peruvian Communist Party, and Raul Acosta, Deputy General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party who is in charge of international relations; the Revolutionary Organization of Cambodia; Stanis Balchak, General Secretary of the Miners' Trade Unions International; Maria Del Carmen Amaro, General Secretary of the Trade Unions International of Food Industry, Tobacco, Hotel and Allied Workers; the attendants of the meeting of the Lebanese Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification; Gorgi Nden Ndao, Chairman of the Senegalese Peace Movement; Hoakin Molano Kampusano, Chairman of the Colombian Peace Council; Ahmad Kasim Dahmashi, Chairman, and Abdul Said Al-Khalisi, General Secretary, of the National Peace Council of the Yemen Arab Republic; Abdul Malik, General Secretary of the Pakistan Solidarity Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification and General Secretary of the Karachi Committee of the Pakistan Organization for Afro-Asian People's Solidarity; G. Dufre, General Secretary of the French Committee of Support and Action for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea; Elenca, General Secretary of the Congolese Association for Friendship among Peoples, on behalf of the Association; Olyu Mamma, General Secretary of the Sierra Leone-Korea Friendship Association; Remy Gillis, Secretary General of the Belgium-Korea Friendship Association and Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Belgium; Edeldrita Umala Aibar, Chairman, and Adriana Osorio Huerta, General Secretary, of the Popular Women's Union of Peru; and Deisi Bona Allen, General Secretary of the Sierra Leone Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification.

Expressing full support to the four-point proposal clarified in the letter to the political parties, public organizations and people of all strata in south Korea and compatriots overseas which was adopted at the joint meeting of political parties and public organizations held in Pyongyang, the General Secretary of the Swiss Progressive Organizations said in his letter:

Warmly welcoming the new and effective proposal for national reunification, I assure you General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea that I will make all efforts to lift high the voices of solidarity with the Korean people's cause of reunification by arousing Swiss public opinion and letting the progressive and democratic forces know about the contents of the letter in detail.

In his letter the General Secretary of the Independent Socialist Party of Switzerland pointed out:

The Political Committee of the Independent Socialist Party of Switzerland on February 11 adopted a resolution supporting the new save-the-nation proposal adopted at the joint meeting of political parties and public organizations of your country.

We are carrying on a campaign to propagandize the national salvation proposal for accelerating Korea's reunification and the problems of the rights of the independent Korean people and great national unity.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Peruvian Communist Party and the Deputy General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party noted in their message:

We express full support and solidarity for all the proposals put forward by the joint meeting of political parties and public organizations of your country on January 25 to prevent the danger of the permanent division of the nation and war and achieve the peaceful reunification of Korea.

We firmly believe that your struggle enjoying the extensive support and sympathy of our Party and all the anti-imperialist, progressive and peace-loving revolutionary forces of the world will certainly be crowned with final victory.

The letter from the Revolutionary Organization of Cambodia said:

In the future, too, as in the past, we will stand firm without vacillation on the side of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people, brothers and comrades-in-arms.

It is in this sense that we sincerely and actively support the principles and proposals advanced one after another by you Comrade General Secretary for the reunification of Korea.

Messages and Letters of Solidarity to WPK and DFRF Central Committees

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea received letters of solidarity from the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, the Central Committee of the Party of National Unity and Progress of Burundi and the Central Committee of the Swiss Progressive Organizations and messages of solidarity from the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and Aimo Haapanen, General Secretary of the Finnish People's Democratic Federation, on behalf of the Federation—the letters and messages which were sent in support of the new national salvation proposal which was put forward by a joint meeting of political parties and public organizations held in Pyongyang on January 25.

In its letter the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party said:

To achieve the peaceful reunification of Korea in a democratic way on the basis of the sovereignty of the Korean people without interference of outside forces is of vital importance not only for the entire Korean people but in preserving peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world.

The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party which has always stood on the side of the Korean people in their righteous struggle once again manifests its support to the new proposal of the political parties and public organizations of the DPRK which will again draw the attention of the world public circles to the necessity of solving the Korean question peacefully on a democratic principle at the earliest possible date.

The letter from the Central Committee of the Party of National Unity and Progress of Burundi noted:

We express our full support to the four-point save-the-nation proposal advanced at the joint meeting held in Pyongyang on January 25.

We support the struggle waged undauntedly by the patriotic democratic figures in the southern half of Korea together with the brothers in the northern half for the reunification of Korea.

If the constant tension is to be removed for good, the US troops now stationed in south Korea must unconditionally be withdrawn with all their weapons of destruction including nuclear weapons.

We sternly condemn the Pak Jung Hi fascist clique's splittist and treacherous acts.

The Burundi people united around the Party of National Unity and Progress of Burundi are convinced that Korea will be reunified before long by the great alliance of the socialist forces in the north and the patriotic forces in the south.

The Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party said in its message:

The Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the Lao people reaffirm their invariable stand of resolutely supporting the line and stand of the Workers' Party of Korea for carrying out the cause of the independent peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

US imperialism is the common enemy of the peoples of our two countries. This is why the Lao people, considering the struggle of the fraternal Korean people against the interventionist and aggressive manoeuvres of US imperialism and its lackeys as their own struggle, will always extend firm support to the struggle of the Korean comrades.

We wish still greater victory to the fraternal Korean people in the struggle to reunify the fatherland under the wise leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Besides, the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland received letters of solidarity from the National Committee of the Polish People's United Front and the Federal Conference of the Yugoslav Socialist Alliance of the Working People and a message of solidarity from the National Council of the Socialist United Front of Romania. The letters and message supported the new national salvation proposal put forward by a joint meeting of political parties and public organizations of our country.

International Organizations Make Public Statements, Appeals and Resolutions

More and more international organizations make public statements, appeals and resolutions in support of the new save-the-nation proposal advanced by a joint meeting of political parties and public organizations of our country.

In its recent statement the Secretariat of the World Council of Peace noted that the four-point national salvation proposal reflects the unanimous desire of the Korean people and the peaceloving people of the whole world for a durable peace in Korea and the country's peaceful reunification and continued:

The World Council of Peace appeals to the peace committees of all countries and all peaceloving peoples to express international solidarity with the just struggle of the Korean people for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and launch a solidarity campaign supporting the new national salvation proposal.

The realization of the four-point national salvation proposal will provide a solid guarantee for removing the danger of a nuclear war and Korea's permanent split and realizing peace on the Korean peninsula and in Asia and the world.

The Executive Secretariat of the Organization of Solidarity of the Peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America issued an appeal recently.

The appeal pointed out:

Korea has been divided artificially for more than 30 years. However, up to date the US imperialists and the south Korean puppets have been tightening the suppression of the people, scheming to perpetuate the country's division, converting south Korea into a big nuclear base contrary to the desires of the nation, threatening the Democratic People's Republic of Korea more unscrupulously and bringing great misfortunes to the Korean people.

After introducing in detail the new nation-saving proposal, the appeal stressed the need for the affiliated organizations, revolutionary organizations and movements and democratic governments to support the struggle of the Korean people for achieving the country's reunification and building an independent and prosperous country and vehemently denounced the manoeuvres of the imperialists and their stooges who force the "two Koreas" policy and cause the tension for war provocation.

Besides, statements were issued by the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, the Women's International Democratic Federation and the Trade Unions International of Food Industry, Tabacco, Hotel and Allied Workers, and a resolution of solidarity was made public by a meeting of the Bureau of the Miners' Trade Unions International.

And the delegates of Madagascar, South West Africa, Britain, Finland, the United States, Ethiopia, Sweden, the Sudan, Sri-Lanka, Egypt, Mali, Senegal, Angola, Belgium, Greece, Turkey, Canada, France, Portugal, Luxemburg and many other countries who attended the meeting of the Executive Committee of the World Council of Peace and the meeting of the International Preparatory Committee for the World Peace Conference held recently in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, issued a joint statement supporting our national salvation proposal.

Foreign Troops in South Korea Must Withdraw Immediately; Korean Question Must Be Settled by the Koreans Themselves and Without Interference of Any Outside Forces

Many Delegates Speak at the World Conference for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea (1)

Many delegates spoke at the World Conference for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea held in Brussels between February 21 and 22.

Den Hideo, Member of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Socialist Party and Chief of its International Affairs Bureau, referred to the three important principles of the North-South Joint Statement for Korea's reunification made public on July 4, 1972 and to the proposal with regard to the establishment of a north-south confederation advanced by the great leader President Kim Il Sung in June 1973.

Despite the positive efforts on the part of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, he said, no progress has been made in the solution of the reunification problem because of the erroneous attitude taken by the Pak "regime" of south Korea. Then he said:

I once again declare that the indispensable requisite to the reunification of Korea is, firstly, to withdraw all US armed forces stationed in south Korea and, secondly, eliminate the fascist system of the Pak "regime" of south Korea and realize democracy.

Chalon Bongkamant, Director of the National Broadcasting Corporation of Laos and Secretary and Member of the Lao Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification, pointed out that the aggressive and war acts of the US imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique are creating the danger of war in Korea and menacing peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world. He stressed:

The Lao Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification and the entire Lao people will voice an invariable strong support to all initiatives presented by the Workers' Party of Korea headed by the great leader President Kim Il Sung and the Korean people to achieve the peaceful reunification of the country by creating an atmosphere of great national unity and their struggle to put them into effect.

We firmly support the policy of national reunification advanced by the great leader of the Korean people President Kim Il Sung.

J. Garcia Olivera, Member of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party and Chairman of the Cuban Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification, condemned the imperialists and their stooges' acts of aggression and provocation in south Korea and expressed solidarity for the Korean people in their struggle for the country's independent and peaceful reunification. Then he pointed out:

On this rostrum we call upon all the progressive forces of the world to fully support the proposal made at the Joint Meeting of Political Parties and Public Organizations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in order to pave the way for the solution of the reunification question, frustrate a "two Koreas" policy of reactionary forces and prevent the start of a new war.

Guha R., Vice-President of the World Federation of Democratic Youth, noted:

The World Federation of Democratic Youth holds that the continued acts of military provocation against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea must be terminated at once, nuclear weapons and other mass destruction weapons and all the US troops be withdrawn from south Korea and foreign military bases there be dismantled.

He said that the World Federation of Democratic Youth denounces the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique's fascist repressive measures and expresses solidarity with the struggle of the south Korean youth and other people for freedom, democracy and national reunification.

Levaux Marcel, Chairman of the Parliamentary Group of the Communist Party of Belgium, pointed to Korea's division causing the grave danger to world peace. He said that he would make efforts to arouse public opinion in Belgium in order to let the government of his country respect Korea's reunification, territorial integrity and independence and adopt an affirmative attitude towards the peaceful and democratic reunification in Korea.

Abdul Gafour Gani, Member of the National Leadership of the Arab Socialist Baath Party in Iraq, stated:

We should help the Korean people realize their national reunification. We, therefore, appeal to all the political parties, all the political figures and all the progressive forces of the world to support the Korean people's struggle.

Prokvca, Secretary General of the Ministry of Finance of Guinea-Bissau, said that the victory won by the Korean people under the wise guidance of the respected and beloved leader President Kim Il Sung in the revolution and construction firmly convinced us that they would achieve a greater victory in the future in their efforts for national reunification. He voiced full support to the struggle of the Korean people for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

A delegation of the Party of the People's Revolution of Benin said that the Korean people made a great contribution to world peace through their just struggle to reunify their country, and stated:

Fully supporting the policy for national reunification set forth by the respected and beloved leader President Kim Il Sung we firmly believe that the Korean people will certainly achieve the reunification of their country.

A representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions expressed full support for the Korean people's struggle, and noted:

The World Federation of Trade Unions considers the struggle of the Korean people part of the world trade union movement and the struggle of the peaceloving people of the world against imperialism and colonialism and for national independence, freedom, democracy and progress.

President Kim Il Sung of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, he said, has advanced many specific proposals in favour of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and a Joint Meeting of Political Parties and Public Organizations held in Pyongyang on January 25 put forward a new four-point national salvation proposal. Then he pointed out:

In his letter to President Kim Il Sung of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea the President of the World Federation of Trade Unions voiced full support to this new save-the-nation initiative.

Katayanagi Ryokichi, Secretary of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization, pointed out:

I express full support for the Korean people in their efforts to achieve their country's independent and peaceful reunification.

Declaring that one of their most important duties was to strengthen solidarity with the struggle of the Korean people for national reunification, he pointed to an international meeting of solidarity with the Korean people held in Baghdad in January 1975 and other meetings and expressed his resolve to strengthen a movement in favour of solidarity with the Korean people in the future.

M. Shilig, Chief of the Section of Conference of the Libyan Arab Socialist Union, noted:

Libya supports the struggle of the Korean people for reunification and liquidation of the consequences of colonialism.

We should give selfless support to the endeavours of the Korean people to drive the US colonialists out of south Korea and remove all the military bases there.

Khawaja Abdur Rasheed, member of a provincial committee of the Pakistan People's Party, noted:

We have no doubt that under the inspiring and dedicated leadership of their brilliant leader President Kim Il Sung, the heroic and strong Korean people, who have already achieved so much in every field of national development, will also meet with success in achieving the reunification of their country.

Phattas Steorge, delegate of the Socialist Party of Greece, declared:

We have done everything in our power to support the Korean people in the struggle for national reunification and will send every possible support to them.

He said that there would be increasing voices condemning his government which moves in reaction to the command of imperialists opposed to the Korean people.

Nils Eric Gusfafsson, Member of the Swedish Parliament, stated that it must be the obligation of the world's opinion to forcefully protest the grave fact—the USA having a great number of troops and nuclear weapons in south Korea, and emphasized:

We have formerly condemned and will even now strongly condemn the military engagement by the USA in Korea.

Rev. Christie Rosa, Deputy General Secretary of the Christian Peace Conference, condemned the scheme of the United States and the south Korean authorities to create the danger of a new war in Korea. Then he touched upon a declaration made public by the Christian Peace Conference in December 1976, the declaration that called for strictly implementing the resolution on the Korean question adopted at the 30th UNGA Session and stopping the suppression of the just struggle of the south Korean religious men and patriotic people for social democratization and the country's peaceful reunification.

He extended firm solidarity to the Korean people fighting to safeguard peace.

Milosevic Milutin, Member of the Central Committee of the Yugoslav League of Communists, said that the Korean people are struggling to achieve the peaceful reunification of the country in accordance with the principle of Juche indicated by the great leader President Kim Il Sung, and noted:

The essence of the Juche idea founded by President Kim Il Sung is that all peoples are the masters of their destinies and they should solve their problems by their own efforts.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is of opinion that the people should have the right to reunification and the right to decide their own destiny without the interference of outside forces and independently.

He noted that Yugoslavia considers the initiative taken by the DPRK in January 1977 for national reunification to be a new, affirmative one confirming once again its efforts to remove the present tension and terminate the abnormal division.

Nabi Belkacem, Member of the Leadership of the National Liberation Front of Algeria, declared:

It is our invariable stand to manifest solidarity of our people with the Korean people now.

We consider that the four-point national salvation proposal put forward by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on January 25, 1977, is a realistic one for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

We demand the withdrawal of foreign troops and removal of US military bases from south Korea.

Let me allow to avail myself of this conference to reaffirm the Algerian people's full support for the just cause of the Korean people and confirm our firm determination to make a contribution to increasing the progressive peace forces of the world.

Osheish M., Member of the Central Committee of the United National Front Political Organization of Democratic Yemen, declared that the greatest obstacle standing in the way of the realization of the DPRK's reunification proposal is the presence of US troops in south Korea and repressive measures taken by the south Korean puppet clique with an "anti-communist" row, and pointed out:

We assure you that we will join all the progressive and peace-loving people the world over in expressing invariable solidarity with the Korean people.

We support the efforts of the Government of the DPRK for the independent and peaceful reunification of her homeland.

Najmeh E., Member of the National Leadership of the Arab Socialist Baath Party in Syria, said:

We think this conference will take a concrete measure to support the struggle of the Korean people for forcing the foreign troops to withdraw from south Korea and achieving the peaceful reunification of the country.

Then let progressive and patriotic Korean people build an independent and reunified state in their territory.

Tachigi Hiroshi, Chairman of the Foreign Policy Committee of the Japan Communist Party and Member of the House of Councillors, pointed out:

US troops must be withdrawn unconditionally from south Korea to bring Korea an independent and peaceful reunification.

We will make more efforts in our struggle against the despicable collusion between Japan and south Korea and against the military integration among the United States, Japan and south Korea. We demand the withdrawal of the US forces from Korea, Japan and the rest of Asia.

We will continue to support the struggle of the Korean people for the country's independent and peaceful reunification and expand solidarity with them.

Razabimbahiny J., Ambassador of Madagascar to Belgium, said:

For the solution of the question of Korean reunification, all the foreign troops should be withdrawn, first of all.

The withdrawal of all outside forces, especially foreign troops equipped with nuclear weapons, from south Korea is a prerequisite to the reunification of Korea.

The occupation of south Korea by foreign imperialism equipped with nuclear weapons poses a danger not only to the Korean people but also to the people the world over and it constitutes a challenge to the world, said **Lopez Salinas A., Member of the Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Spanish Communist Party.** He added:

The Spanish Communist Party supports the reunification of Korea.

We demand that the resolution of the United Nations calling for the withdrawal of US troops from south Korea be implemented.

At the same time, we hold that the nuclear weapons must be shipped out of there in compliance with the demand of peace.

He stressed:

Our Party extends greetings to President Kim Il Sung, the leader of the Korean people, who is struggling for the reunification of Korea.

(Continued on Page 3)

Resolution of the World Conference for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea was adopted amid the loud applause of the attendants of the conference

DPRK GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO SEND RELIEF GOODS TO RSR GOVERNMENT

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea decided to send relief goods to the Government of the Romanian Socialist Republic in connection with the heavy damages caused by a big earthquake in some areas of Romania recently.

The relief goods imbued with our people's sentiments of firm solidarity and fraternal friendship to the Romanian people who have turned out as one man in the struggle to recover from the earthquake damages will be conveyed to the Government of the Romanian Socialist Republic through a fast expedient.

(KCNA)

Korea-Sao Tome and Principe Friendship Association Inaugurated

An inauguration of the Korea-Sao Tome and Principe Friendship Association was held at the Chollima House of Culture on March 10.

Put with due respect on the platform of the meeting place were a portrait of the great leader of our Party and our people Comrade Kim Il Sung and a portrait of Manuel Pinto Da Costa, General Secretary of the Liberation Movement of Sao Tome and Principe and President of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe.

Chairman and Vice-Chairmen, Secretary and members of the Korea-Sao Tome and Principe Friendship Association were elected at the meeting.

Son Song Pil was elected its Chairman.

The meeting adopted the rules of the association.

The meeting also adopted a letter to Manuel Pinto Da Costa, General Secretary of the Liberation Movement of Sao Tome and Principe and President of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe.

(KCNA)

Inauguration of Korea-Madagascar Friendship Association Held

An inaugural meeting of the Korea-Madagascar Friendship Association was held at the Chollima House of Culture on March 12.

Placed with due respect on the platform of the meeting hall were a portrait of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of our people, and a portrait of President Didier Ratsiraka, the outstanding leader of the Malagasy people.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary and members of the Association were elected at the meeting.

Li Chang Son was elected Chairman of the Association.

The meeting adopted the statute of the association.

A letter to Didier Ratsiraka, President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, was adopted at the meeting.

(KCNA)

"Committee for the Study of the Works of President KIM IL SUNG" Renamed "Committee for the Study of Kimilsungism"

By Lahore Pakistan-Korea Youth Friendship Association

A grand meeting for renaming the "Committee for the Study of the Works of President Kim Il Sung" of the Lahore Pakistan-Korea Youth Friendship Association the "Committee for the Study of Kimilsungism" of the Lahore Pakistan-Korea Youth Friendship Association was held in Pakistan on February 7, according to a report.

Present at the meeting were members of the committee and chiefs and members of the groups under the committee.

A letter to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung was unanimously adopted at the meeting amid a thunderous applause of the attendants.

Mussadek Ahad Shah, Chairman of the "Committee for the Study of Kimilsungism" of the Lahore Pakistan-Korea Youth Friendship Association, spoke at the meeting.

Kimilsungism, the basic content of which is the immortal Juche idea founded by President Kim Il Sung who is leading the world revolution to great victory, is perfect Marxism-Leninism expounding the demand of the revolution of the present time and the ways of its fulfilment, he stressed, and said: This idea, brilliantly embodied in the revolutionary struggle of the Korean people as well as the world revolutionary people, is displaying great vitality.

Noting that Kimilsungism is an idea which serves as a powerful guiding compass for the victory of the revolution in the present time, he continued:

The idea giving the most perfect programme and policy of struggle in leading the world revolution to sure victory is only Kimilsungism.

Kimilsungism, brilliantly embodied in the Korean revolution, has yielded miracles startling the world people, boundlessly encourages the exploited and oppressed peoples and brightly lights up the road to be followed by them.

We should make a deep study of the revolutionary idea of President Kim Il Sung to thoroughly grasp its essence and bend all our efforts to embody it in reality.

Then the secretary of the committee and the chief of the "Group for the Study of Kimilsungism" of young workers of the Lahore Pakistan-Korea Youth Friendship Association spoke at the meeting. They stressed that great Kimilsungism is the integral system of ideology, theory and method of Juche which is of great world-historic significance and is the perfect system of ideology, theory and method illuminating the most correct road for victory in the future struggle on the basis of the review and analysis of the experiences of the revolutionary struggle of the working class.

The meeting declared that the groups under the committee shall be renamed "groups for the study of Kimilsungism".

A resolution was adopted at the meeting.

(KCNA)

Organizations Formed in Japan to Support Korea's Independent and Peaceful Reunification

The organizations for supporting Korea's independent and peaceful reunification were formed in Japan with the warm support of broad sections of Japanese people.

The meeting for the formation of the Chiba Prefectural People's Association for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea was held at the educational hall of Chiba Prefecture in Japan on February 26.

The meeting was convened by 30 promoters—Kasei Kan, Socialist member of the House of Councillors, members of the prefectural assembly from the Socialist Party, the Communist Party and the Liberal Democratic Party, mayors of six cities in the prefecture and other personages of political circles, Takahasi Yuji, Honorary Professor of Tokyo University and other personages of academic circles and representatives of public organizations.

Present at the meeting were the promoters and Kihara Minoru, Socialist member of the House of Representatives, Akagiri Misao and Ogawa Kunihiko, members of the House of Councillors, and representatives of 26 organizations and people in the prefecture, more than 600 in all.

At the meeting Watanabe Takasi, representative of the "Society for the Study of Korean Affairs" made an opening address and Ichikawa Hukuhei, representative of the Chiba Prefectural Association of the Japan-Korea Association and member of the Chiba Prefectural Assembly, delivered a speech on behalf of the promoters.

At the meeting several personages took the floor to evince their resolutions. The meeting adopted the rules and policy of action of the Chiba Prefectural People's Association for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea and elected 30 representative members.

The rules of action declare as follows:

1. We support the realization of Korea's reunification on the principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity.

2. We demand the immediate withdrawal of the US troops in south Korea who stand in the way of reunification.

3. We support the south Korean people's struggle for democratization.

4. We will strongly demand the Japanese government change its policy towards Korea.

For this purpose, we will organize various meetings, lectures and study sessions and strive hard to strengthen solidarity with the Koreans in Japan.

Resolutions were also adopted at the meeting.

The meeting heard a speech made by Yun Sang Chol, director of the International Department of the Central Standing Committee of Chongryon (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan), and a lecture given by Kuno Chuji, Chairman of the Dietmen's League for Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship, on the subject "On the Visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea".

Besides, the Aomori Prefectural Solidarity Committee for Supporting Korea's Independent and Peaceful Reunification and the Hyogo Prefectural People's Committee for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea were formed.

Chi Yong Gun

Over 1,500 People of All Strata in Seoul Hold Anti-"Government" Rally

"Declaration of Workers' Human Rights Demanding Democratic Reforms" Issued

Workers, religious men and personages of all circles, more than 1,500 in all, held an anti-"government" rally at a church in Myongdong, Seoul, on March 10 and issued a "declaration of workers' human rights demanding democratic reforms", according to a foreign press report.

That day, the report said, the crowd held a rally, "defying the government order banning an anti-government meeting." Its attendants included Catholic bishop Chi Hak Sun, priests and pastors and other men of religion and families of Yun Bo Son and Kim Dae Jung involved in "the declaration for democracy and national salvation".

"The declaration of workers' human rights" which was "read out and adopted amid deafening cheers at the meeting" contained a 13-point demand.

The main points of the demand are as follows:

1. To guarantee the right of organization, the right to collective negotiation and the right to collective action—"three rights of labour".

1. To revoke at once the "law on special measures for national security" and "emergency decrees" which infringe upon the workers' basic rights.

1. We reject the illegal and inhuman steps taken by employers to force 12 or above hours of work a day under the name of export.

1. We denounce some trade union "cadres" who do harm to the workers by aligning themselves with entrepreneurs and shutting their eyes to illegal business activities.

1. We condemn the entrepreneurs who compel the workers to do labour without pay and line their pockets under the cloak of "new village movement".

1. The "government" should institute the minimum wage and ensure the workers their livelihood.

1. To raise the low wages forthwith.

1. Reservation of the rights of the working people for the induction of foreign capital should be stopped and the "regime" should keep a strict watch on the high-handed action of enterprises relying on foreign capital.

After the meeting, the crowd surged out hand in hand, singing songs opposing fascism and demanding democratic rights and loudly shouting the slogans "Release political prisoners!" and "Dissolve emergency decrees!"

(KCNA)

"Socialist Paradise"

Our country founded and led by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung is a genuine people's state in which workers and peasants and other working people enjoy genuine freedom and happiness as the masters of the country.

The revolutionary people of the world chant the unstinted praises of our country established by the great leader, calling it "the country in which socialism is realized most brilliantly" and "model of socialism," and express their boundless respect for the great leader.

"The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the glorious fatherland of the Korean people, is a great gain which the Korean Communists and other patriotic people under the leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung won through long-drawn bloody struggle and is a people's state founded for the first time in the Korean history that inherited the brilliant revolutionary traditions of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle" (Indian paper "People's Democracy").

"Before liberation the Korean people lived a miserable life, suffering all sorts of humiliation and contempt because they failed to have their country and sovereignty. They were under inhuman treatment all the time and had to suffer hunger and poverty though they worked their fingers to the bone.

To enjoy a genuine life under their own state power in a bright world was the ardent aspiration they kept deep in their hearts.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung realized this century-old desire of the people.

He waged the arduous anti-Japanese armed struggle unprecedented in the history of national liberation war, liberated the people from the colonial rule of Japanese imperialism and established the first state power of the workers and the peasants in the Korean history of five thousand years" (Syrian paper "Al Shakhafa Dul Usoubumaiye").

"The Democratic People's Republic of Korea set up and led by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung is the socialist paradise where all the people live freely and happily.

The social system of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the most superior socialist system under which workers and peasants and other working people are the genuine masters of the country.

In this country all policies are geared to the happiness and well-being of the people" (A paper of Kuwait).

"Basing himself on the immortal Juche idea the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung has turned this country which before liberation had been eclipsed on the world map as a backward colonial agricultural state into a socialist industrial power with the most superior socialist system and firm independent economy and strong self-defence capacity in a short span of time.

Under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung Korea has become an economic power that heavy industry, light industry and agriculture and all other economic branches have been developed in a diversified way and dependent on its own cadres and raw materials" (A paper of Zambia).

"I was deeply moved by the socialist system of Korea.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung introduced free education and free medical care, the most excellent system in the world, and abolished the taxation system. This is the socialist policies that can not be found in any other countries.

Indeed, the education system of Korea is the best model in the world. All countries should learn from the education policy of Korea" (A functionary of the Management Office of Waterworks of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania).

"Today's DPRK is an earthly paradise of socialism in the real sense of the word. It is also the country where socialism is realized in superb brilliance.

All the people are living with no worry about food and clothing in fine houses without the rent and the state is giving free, good schooling to their sons and daughters. This is the reality hardly to be found in any other countries of the world" (Chairman of the Togo-Korea Friendship Association).

"I dare say that the DPRK whose working class is building an ideal land for mankind as the full-fledged master of the state is the fatherland of the world working class" (A public figure of Japan).

"Truth to tell, His Excellency President Kim Il Sung is the greatest man the history of mankind has ever produced and the Korean people under his wise leadership are a proud people who enjoy the greatest happiness and the crowning glory among the hundreds of millions of people on the globe" (An Egyptian friend).

Immensely happy are our children growing up in the embrace of the fatherly leader

Proud Master of the Country

ARTICLE I of our Law on the Equality of the Sexes—the law which was thrashed out by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung— reads:

"...women have equal rights with men in all domains of state, economic, cultural and socio-political life."

Every article of the Law which legislatively affirms the equality of the sexes is fully applied to our actual social life under the well-advised guidance of the great leader.

A proof of this is provided by the fact that many of our women have been elected to people's assemblies of all levels in the elections to local organs of power held on March 4 in our country.

Among the newly elected woman deputies is Kim Myong Hui, Director of the Pyongyang Confectionery for Children.

A few days ago we had a chance to call on her.

At a well-arranged place of work we were greeted by her. She was full of vigor and looked young for her age, 47.

She was discussing the matter over technological innovation with a woman engineer by a machine.

She soon learned our business and showed us into her office room.

"Finding myself being elected to be a deputy now, I can hardly sleep with a thought how to justify the profound political trust and great concern shown by the great leader...

"I, who had suffered all sorts of humiliation to my dignity in former days, became a factory director, and this time was elected to be a deputy, qualified to take part directly in the discussion of the state's political affairs. This glory was hardly imaginable under the exploiting society", she thus began and then told us of her past predicament.

She was born of a pieceworker's family during Japanese domination.

Her family was very poor. When she, youngest daughter, was nine years old, she had to be sold to a rich man's house as unmarried daughter-in-law like her sisters. Unable to endure all sorts of maltreatment she escaped to her native home after a month's service there. Now her parents sent her to a Japanese-owned textile mill.

Little Myong Hui worked hard from early morning till late at night. She worked the same hour as adults, but received a much smaller wage—one fourth of their wages.

She had been subjected to exploitation and oppression this way, completely denied the right to study until the year of the country's liberation when she was 15 years old.

However, the country's liberation and the great leader's warm care brought her a new life.

She was given an opportunity to learn Korean letters at an adult school and graduated from a college after going through several training courses, thus becoming an able worker.

She has been working at the post of factory director for 20 years.

Guided by Deputy Kim Myong Hui we moved to the inside of the factory fitted with automated machines. We could see woman workers full of vigor working in joyful moods.

At the compound stood a cosy nursery, a kindergarten and other service facilities which enable women to work, study and carry on socio-political activities with a peace of mind.

The administrative and technical staff, and workers are entirely composed of women.

Not only Kim Myong Hui and the women of this factory but all the women of our country are practically accorded equal rights with men. They enjoy a fruitful life as masters of the state and masters of production. They also work as deputies to people's assemblies of all levels, factory directors, chairmen of the cooperative farm management boards, doctors, professors and renowned artistes.

Concluding our visit to the confectionery I recalled what a foreign woman public figure dwelt on the activities of our women in socio-political fields:

"It is not difficult to make an amendment to the law, but it is not easy to destroy outdated customs and mode of life and apply women's equality with men to practical life. However, this problem has been solved as a world-first example in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Marshal Kim Il Sung is indeed the benefactor of the emancipation of women and their affectionate father."

Truly happy are our women who lead an independent and creative life under the able guidance of the great leader and under his paternal care.

Yun Jong Ok

Woman Kim Myong Hui consults with workers about technical matters to produce larger quantities of tasty and nice confections for children

Our People Live a Happy Life in Tax-free Country

IN this country a taxation system, the vestige of the old society, was abolished as from April 1, 1974. Thus a cherished dream of our people to live in a tax-free country was transformed into a reality. Complete emancipation from all burdens of taxation provided greater possibilities for our people, freed from exploitation and oppression, to enjoy an ever greater abundance and an ever higher level of cultural life.

Abolition of the taxation system which created a stir in the world convincingly proved the excellence of our socialist system established by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung has said:

"Our socialist system is the most advanced social system where the working masses are masters of everything and where everything in society serves the working masses."

In our country the state takes full responsibility for the material and cultural well-being of the workers, peasants and other working people. Therefore, everyone in this land is now living a good life, without having to worry about food, clothing and housing.

Here is what Chong Ja Chon, a worker of the Pyongyang Vinyl Chloride Shoe-making Factory, who suffered all sorts of hardships in exploiting society, says, referring to our grateful socialist system:

"Our country where even insignificant amounts of tax were abolished is a country truly for the people. Instead of collecting money from the people, the state provides everything needed for them. Can we find such a country elsewhere in the world?"

Our state practically offers tremendous benefits for the people.

The state provides the working people with jobs according to their abilities and aptitudes, supplies them with adequate food with low prices as to be almost free and gives them living quarters.

The working people are not only rewarded according to the quantity and quality of work done, but also they enjoy from the state additional benefits greater than the incomes they get.

So, in our country no one roams about hunting for a job or resorts to begging. Everyone benefits from free education, free medical care, labour protection, an eight-hour workday, paid holidays, and accommodation at holiday homes and sanatoria. All our people live an equally good life, indeed.

Let us take up the past plight Chong Ja Chon had suffered. He hailed from Cheju-do Island in south Korea. Under the tyrannical rule of the south Korean puppet regime he served for more than ten years as a hired hand at a landlord's house. After that, he crossed over to Japan. The life there remained the same as it had been under the puppet regime. He worked hard, but the only lot waiting for him was starvation and humiliation. He has no fingers in his left hand. This speaks of a trace of the cursed exploiting society.

This happened when he was working at a shoe-making factory in Osaka, Japan. There were no regulations for the protection of labour. One day he fell from exhaustion at his machine, by which his fingers were cut.

Chong Ja Chon got discharged. For his failure to pay rents his shabby dwelling was placed under distraint. His family became homeless. Without finding a shelter his wife gave birth to the first daughter under the eaves of other's house. For his new-born baby he had to pay a registration tax of birth.

When he was in dire straits, a helping hand reached him from the socialist homeland.

He returned home in 1961. He was provided with a cozy apartment situated at the heart of Pyongyang. He and his wife got jobs with a modernly-equipped shoe-making factory according to their desires. Thus began their new life. From their own experience in life they came to know the true meaning of happiness.

Soon after his return home he was completely cured of stomach trouble that had tormented him while in Japan—without paying a single penny, of course. In addition to free medical care he was given a free pass to Mt. Kumgang-san and other scenic spots, where he had a good rest. He, who had completely been barred from the right to study formerly, was enrolled at a working people's school, where he learned Korean letters for the first time. He is now a graduate from a working people's middle school.

Chong Ja Chon has five children. They are all enrolled at the network of an eleven-year universal compulsory education.

One day children questioned their father: What does "tax" mean? The father had to give long explanation for the term.

It is pleasant to see our rising generation happily growing up in a society where such words as "taxation", "beggars", "unemployment", "tuition fees", "doctor's fees" that tormented the people in the old society are only to be found on books.

"Thanks to the great benefaction of the fatherly leader my life-long wish has been realized. But there is only one wish. It is that the day would soon come when our present happiness, free from exploitation, oppression and taxation, is shared by our suffering compatriots in the south," says Chong Ja Chon.

Chang Ik Su

(Continued from Page 2)

Abramovicz A., Member of the Leadership of the Confederation of Labour of France, said: This conference marks a new, very important stage in expanding the international solidarity campaign for supporting the struggle of the Korean people. The aim of this campaign, he stressed, is to help the Korean people achieve independent and peaceful reunification and to contribute to all initiatives for its realization.

Abdel Ferrah M., Member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of West Sahara, said:

The West Saharan people support the valiant and devoted struggle of the Korean people for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the DPRK, while intensifying the struggle against imperialism and its puppets, gives support to the struggle of the people of all continents for peace and social progress.

We support the proposal of Ichikawa Makoto for forming an international liaison committee for supporting Korean reunification.

A. Trombadori, Communist Member of the Parliament of Italy, had this to say:

We hope that a great unity transcending the differences between the north and the south of Korea in politics, economy, culture and ideal will be achieved. He continued:

There can be no peace without national sovereignty.

It is an important task in the struggle for defence of world peace and justice to support the Korean people's cause of reunifying Korea peacefully and without the interference of outside forces.

Levant V., professor of political science of Canada, said that the US imperialists ignited war in Korea and usurped the UN flag. He pointed out:

The realization of the peaceful reunification of Korea is of great importance, because it will mark a step forward in the struggle for human dignity and the liberation of the oppressed peoples of the world and a heavy blow to the countries harbouring expansionist desire.

The dissolution of the "UN Command" and the withdrawal of US troops and the realization of democracy in south Korea are the prerequisite to a genuine independence and the peaceful reunification of Korea.

Guyot R., Member of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party and Member of the Senate of France, noted:

The French Communist Party is making every effort to inform the French people of the proposals of the DPRK set forth by the great leader President Kim Il Sung and of the Korean situation and denounces the misrule of our present government.

We are standing firm on the side of the Korean brothers and friends fighting to attain the noble aim of national reunification.

Expressing full support to the four-point proposal put forward at a Joint Meeting of Political Parties and Public Organizations held in Pyongyang on January 25, **Iraida Montalbo, Deputy General Secretary of the Tri-Continental People's Solidarity Organization,** said:

The Organization of Solidarity of the Peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America will bend all its efforts in support of the sacred cause of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people.

To expand the ranks of the supporters of the struggle of the Korean people and the DPRK led by President Kim Il Sung and the Workers' Party of Korea is a blow to the imperialists forcing misfortunes upon our fraternal Korean people and a contribution to world peace.

Trambowsky Gustav, Member of the Leadership of the German Communist Party, said:

The West German Communists support the constructive proposals of the Government of the DPRK for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. He continued:

We hold that the United States should implement the resolution of the 30th Session of the UN General Assembly so that the Korean question could be settled and the world peace preserved.

The delegate of the Socialist Party of Chile said:

Reunifying Korea is the right not only of the illegally divided people but of the world people who want to have their own security guaranteed. That is why we express extensive solidarity and support to the just struggle of the Korean people. He went on to say:

Korea must be reunified and the Korean people be allowed to take the road leading to free and overall development as an independent people.

Neither the fascist puppet regime of Seoul nor the direct interference of the US army can block the ultimate reunification of Korea.

Rodriguez R., Member of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Puerto Rico, said:

From the rostrum of this conference we extend warm and fraternal greetings to the respected and beloved leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Il Sung.

The works of Comrade Kim Il Sung, he said, constitute a highly important guideline in the struggle for Korean reunification.

Our Party and people will continue to fight invariably in support of the just stand of the Korean people for the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

Oblitas Jimenez A., Member of the Central Committee of the Peruvian Communist Party, said that the world-wide claim for the Korean question fundamentally agreed in the three points: to struggle against the interference of US imperialism and Japanese militarism obstructing the reunification of the Korean people; to support the struggle for the liberation and unity of the south Korean patriots; and to strengthen a solidarity campaign for the peaceful reunification of Korea, part of the struggle for the liberation of mankind, on an international level.

He emphasized:

In the name of our Peruvian people and the Peruvian Communist Party, we pledge to continue to support powerfully and more actively the struggle of the Korean people till the complete reunification of Korea and the total destruction of the war forces in the world.

Cruel Extortion by Pak Jung Hi Puppet Clique

From the outset of the year the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique are indulged in cruel plunder of the people as never before.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"The people have been totally impoverished. Nevertheless, south Korea's rulers are exacting increasing taxes from the working people to cover their huge military expenditures."

This year the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique are going to extract from the south Korean people a colossal sum of money, that is, more than 2,787,310 million *won* (local duty included), accounting for 93.9 per cent of the "budget" of the puppet government, under the name of various taxes.

To hit this huge target of extortion at any cost, they revised for the worse or newly framed the "income tax law" and 17 other evil tax laws and remarkably increased the number of apparatuses for exploitation and their personnel already at the end of last year.

They formulated quite a few evil tax laws again this year and had the gall to blab that they "will set right dishonest things in assessment stage by stage" so that "the system of added value taxes" can smoothly be operated. No wonder this wicked item of duties is said to "have been levied on those who keep silent and even on those who are in their graves".

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique rake in exorbitant profits by raising all sorts of prices and fees by a wide margin.

As of the end of last year 93 kinds of commodity prices in Seoul went up drastically, 166 per cent at maximum and this year various fees and prices snowballed. The standard prices of bread and cider, foodstuffs for mass consumption, were boosted by 12.5 to 23 per cent.

Railway freight charges rose by 17.3 per cent, passengers' fares by 13 per cent and telephone rates by 234.6 per cent.

The price of coal was jerked up by 34 per cent as against last year.

Commenting on the move of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique for successive price hike, a radio report from Seoul said that "prices shoot up all at once in some items, apparently the way of raising prices has been 'modernized' nowadays".

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique who regard campus as a profiteering centre squeeze a stupendous amount of money from students.

On February 3 they put up tuition fees of middle and high schools by 25 per cent and on the following day tuition fees of private "primary schools" and specialized schools by 25 per cent respectively. The registration fees in colleges and specialized schools were raised in a great measure.

Under the name of tuition fee a student has to pay 5,130 *won* in "primary schools", 4,440 *won* in the middle school course of specialized schools in Seoul, 6,875 *won* in the high school course in a month.

Plunder through public health work has been further intensified.

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique blinded by money-making jacked up doctor bills at "national hospitals" by 20-27 per cent on an average and those at hospitals attached to higher educational institutions and at general hospitals by 21-40 per cent.

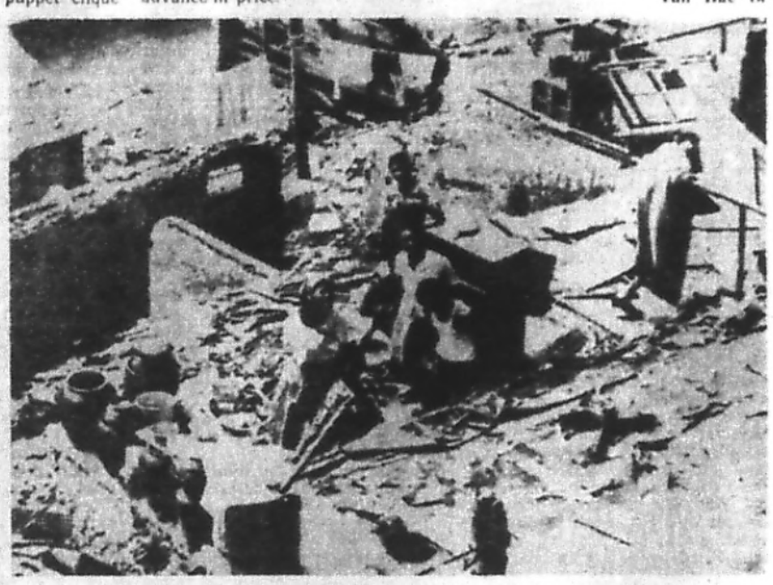
The charges for medicine also climbed up by an average of 20-30 per cent on the whole as compared with last year, especially the medicine for cold showed a 50 per cent advance in price.

Owing to the harsh exploitation by the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique, the toiling masses in south Korea can hardly subsist in utter destitution.

As is clear from the above, the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique are grinding the faces of the people more and more in an attempt to obtain funds sufficient to ignite a new war against our Republic, keep the diabolical military fascist ruling system and enjoy personal wealth and glory.

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique who try to prolong their remaining days, bleeding the people white, will perish never to revive.

Yun Hae Ik



People in south Korea who have lost even their board huts are left in the open air

Most Fair and Reasonable Proposal for Solution of Korean Question

Many Countries Warmly Support Four-Point Save-the-Nation Proposal

For its justness the four-point national salvation proposal advanced at the joint meeting of political parties and public organizations of our country is continuously receiving great support and sympathy from various countries of the world.

In its statement, the Gambia National Youth Council pointed out:

The new nation-saving proposal for acceleration of Korean reunification which was put forward at the joint meeting of political parties and public organizations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the most just and aboveboard proposal fully conforming with the principles of the North-South Joint Statement and the most reasonable and realistic proposal for removing war danger in Korea and hastening her peaceful reunification.

We hold that this proposal should be put into effect without delay.

Together with all the peace-loving peoples of the world, the Gambian people consider that the new proposal presented at the joint meeting of political parties and public organizations constitutes an important step for the attainment of Korean reunification.

In its statement the Central Council of Polish Trade Unions said that the members of the Polish Trade Unions, together with the socialist countries and progressive democratic forces of the world, support the Korean people's struggle for independent and peaceful reunification. It went on to say:

The consistent struggle of the DPRK for the country's peaceful reunification enjoys the full support of the Polish working people.

The Polish Trade Unions expresses apprehension about the Pak Jung Hi clique's policy of aggression and war and protests against their terrorist outrages and repression of the south Korean progressive democratic forces.

In his statement, the Chairman of the Arab Journalists Union had this to say:

Nuclear weapons of the US imperialist aggressor troops are deployed in south Korea and the danger of nuclear war is growing day by day.

The US imperialists must give up their aggressive manoeuvres against Korea and withdraw their armed forces of aggression, nuclear weapons and all other weapons of destruction from south Korea.

The south Korean authorities must discontinue the "two Koreas" plot to keep the nation divided permanently and immediately accept the save-the-nation proposal advanced at the joint meeting of political parties and public organizations.

The National Union of Workers of Togo, the All-India Youth Federation, the Somali Women's Union and other social organizations and personages of public and academic circles of many countries including Professor Inaba Michio of Tokyo University of Japan also made statements in spoken and written languages and sent letters or telegrams of solidarity to their counterparts in our country in support of the national salvation proposal made at the joint meeting of our political parties and public organizations.

Solidarity meetings were held at the "Cubana de Acero" Steel Plant of Cuba and in many other countries. The Hsinhua News Agency, the Soviet paper "Trud", the Pakistani paper "Elan" and other foreign papers and news agencies carried articles in this connection.

Ryu Gun Su

Sternly Condemn Pak Jung Hi Puppet Clique's Fascist Repressive Measures Against South Korean Students

PRF Committee Secretariat Issues Information

Information No. 3 published by the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland on March 11 said: The south Korean authorities, after repeatedly having staged murderous trials against Li Chol, postgraduate student of Koryo University, on charges of involvement in the "campus spyring case" rejecting his justified appeal, finally confirmed a death rap on him on March 8 and imposed a heavy penalty upon his wife Min Hyang Suk.

The information added that the south Korean authorities confirmed a death rap on 3 and a heavy penalty on 13 out of 18 persons who had been arrested and committed for trial on charges of involvement in the "campus spyring case" in November 1975, and now they are attempting to give a death rap to two others. It pointed out that due to the suppressive measures of the south Korean fascist elements, Li Chol and other patriotic students are now facing the imminent danger of death.

Korean Students Committee Publishes Statement

The statement made public by the Korean Students Committee on March 13 noted that the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique are trying to kill Li Chol and other patriotic students on groundless charges of "spying acts" and "attempted rebellion" and what not, and continued:

The Korean Students Committee indignantly denounces the criminal acts of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique as a gross violation of freedom and democracy and an intolerable act going against the will of the whole nation desirous of the independent and peaceful reunification.

At a time when the desire of the south Korean people to achieve a great national unity and promote national reunification in accordance with a new proposal of national salvation advanced by the recent Joint Meeting of Political Parties and Public Organizations is daily growing, the south Korean fascists are intensifying suppression against the patriotic students. This is intended to maintain the "revitalized" system of dictatorship, frantically pursue the policy of fascism, war and division and realize a criminal "two Koreas" plot at any cost.

If the south Korean authorities do not want to leave behind them indelible crimes, they must immediately stop all kinds of fascist suppression of the south Korean students and patriotic people, warned the statement.

Cho Son Won

Pak Jung Hi, Despot of One-Man Fascist Dictatorship, Must Step Down

On March 7 the "Japan Liaison Council for Solidarity with the South Korean People" in Japan held in Tokyo a press conference at which an "Open Letter To Pak Jung Hi Demanding His Resignation on the March First Movement Anniversary" signed by the publishers of "the declaration for democracy and national salvation" and other personages of various strata in south Korea was made public, according to a KNS report from Tokyo.

It was prearranged to make public the "open letter" simultaneously in Seoul and Tokyo on March 1, the first anniversary of the publication of "the declaration for democracy and national salvation". But the "open letter" could not be published in Seoul as it was seized on February 28, the day before the prearranged date, by puppet police who suddenly searched the house of pastor Ham Sok Hon, a publisher of "the declaration for democracy and national salvation." It has been secretly obtained from Seoul recently, according to the report.

The "open letter" was signed by more political, academic and religious figures of south Korea than those who signed "the declaration for democracy and national salvation" issued last year. Among them are pastor Ham Sok Hon and ex-"president" Yun Bo Son.

The "Japan Liaison Council for Solidarity with the South Korean People" declined to announce the names of all the signatories lest they should be suppressed.

The "open letter" laid bare from various angles the 16 year long misrule and tyranny of Pak Jung Hi and its evil consequences and urged him to resign "power".

Follows the full text of the "open letter":

"Open Letter to Pak Jung Hi Demanding His Resignation on the March First Movement Anniversary"

Meeting the significant anniversary of the March First Movement today, we few people, concerned about the country, would like to offer advice to you from our heart of hearts, representing the entire people.

At the time of the May 16 coup d'etat, you declared in your commitments to the people that the army which had been patient and prudent rose at last to save the country whose destiny was hanging by a thread.

As you have cracked down on the people and enforced dictatorship for 16 years, today the country is not only holding its destiny by a thread but is also on the point of falling into a fathomlessly deep valley and the people are not merely prudent but are also enduring hardships and repressing anger, with their teeth firmly set.

But, now things have become extremely serious. No one can tell when and what an unexpected event may happen, plunging the regime into a chaos, if you continue to be adamant.

We offer this advice to you as if we were beheading Ma Su with tears in our eyes (Beheading Ma Su means making a costly sacrifice in the cause of justice).

16 Years of Failure

You must admit that the 16 years of your administration is a failure. You put up national reconstruction but it ended in the establishment of a one-man dictatorship. You talked about modernization but it has only fostered the social evils of the feudal age through increased material production.

Under the rising tall buildings, demoralization kept sweeping the streets. To increase statistical figures, the number of prisons and prisoners has had to be grown more rapidly.

Isn't it because you are aware of this that you shouted yourself hoarse about the new village movement and encouraged the outdated feudal morality?

But, how can it be a remedy to lop off only leaves while leaving the roots intact? You set up the Yusin (revitalization) system and allege that the people support it. Though your clan is increasing, public opinion is estranged from you only to create a crisis tomorrow. Money diplomacy aimed at maintaining power, not relying on the support of the people, has earned only international contempt, putting the people, who have done nothing wrong, out of countenance before the world.

How many times has the constitution been revised and how many draconic laws have been trumped up? The result was greater sacrifices on the part of the students and workers and no peace is preserved in society for the happy life of the people.

This situation led to the March 1 case last year. But you did not want to lend an ear to the words of patriotism dictated by religious conscience. On the contrary, you tried to keep the people ignorant of them and apply heavy penalties by cooking up such charges as the agitation of the people and a subversive plot against the state.

But justice and the law of humanism are alive. What the fellow countrymen at home could not speak of, forced to be blind and dumb, was spoken in their stead by honest-minded and courageous people in various countries of the world and thus the question of freedom and human rights in south Korea has become the focus of the world attention.

On the other hand, such concealed acts as the bribery of US congressmen, the bribery of Japanese dietmen at the time of the south Korea-Japan talks and the abduction of Kim Dae Jung of which we had been ignorant, were brought to light all of a sudden. How can't one think that the lord is not heartless? It is the time you seriously reflected upon your conducts.

We are not captivated by a dirty grudge: We are not so base as to regard all this merely as other's business and gloat over the awkward, difficult position of the government.

Your mistakes are ours and your dishonour is our shame. We are saying these bitter words because we hope you will deeply reflect upon yourself and renounce all the repressive policies and set free without any reservation all the prisoners who were jailed for their acts dictated by conscience to console the people at home and externally conduct diplomacy with foreign countries on a right path and restore the prestige of the country so that happiness may be brought to you and the country.

Nevertheless, you are turning a deaf ear to the appeal at home and advice from without and keep only strengthening control. What are you doing?

There can be no other way out.

There should be only prudence. You should admit your mistakes and thus heal the wounded conscience of you and the people. We say this solely for the sake of the country and you.

Conditions for Reflection

Countless are facts to be enumerated. But we are going to cite only a few main facts to help you seriously reflect on your conducts.

1. You enjoy no love or respect of the people. No matter how loyal your subordinates and your Party members may be, it is not the love or respect of the people. What is important is that the people at large identify themselves with you.

Do you know why the people do not love you? It is because you do not want to be intimate with the people, be openhearted to them and understand them.

Have you ever smiled before the people? Have you ever walked among the people, waving your hand to them? Have you ever conversed with people to understand what they want? Are you tender and modest enough to think that you are one of the people? Even the tyrants in the past age had sometimes "shared joy with people." How can you administer the affairs of state correctly, fearing the people so much, disliking them, doubting them and looking down on them? Politics means administering the affairs of state together with people. It is not politics to drive the people at will.

2. You are disinclined to study our history deeply. Our people have not gone through the normal stage of development for a long time. Ours is a people whose spirit is shrinked as they have always been subjected to a harsh rule. Accordingly, it is impossible to make a new history with this people unless their spirit is heightened greatly. This is precisely a new history. But you had no intention to give play to their sentiments and spirit but tried to bind them hand and foot and drive them hard. Demoralization and mistrust are spreading because the way for the people to engage in free creation has been blocked. What is more important than material abundance is the consciousness that I am a man and the country is our country. A new history can be made only when the people have a new bold idea. But you have nipped in the bud ideas which came into being after a long time, far from undoing what has been bound and reviving what has withered away in the past. Therefore, you have completely failed in choosing persons. You have so far found around yourself only many of vulgar persons who are greedy and crafty but no one who has an intelligent idea and noble character.

See who is still around you among your old friends? What those who had been loyal to you did in the end? Has there been anyone who frankly spoke to you at the risk of his life when a problem arose? If there was such a person, nature and heaven will know it. You are alone. The state cannot be administered single-handed. He who can enlist the wisdom and strength of the people is a true politician.

3. You were ignorant of the trend of the world history. No argument is needed. The international position of our country speaks for itself.

4. Lastly, you had no correct understanding of religion. Man is a spiritual being. He is not content with material substance alone. You underestimated man and misunderstood that everything would go well if only he is ruled by force. The method you have employed so far to win the favour of the people is the very wrong policy, money-is-everything and power-is-everything policy. You have totally ignored the protest of religious conscience. You thought that if you give only some materials of enjoyment to the ignorant masses of the people, you can easily stave off the criticism and protest of intellectuals, people engaged in mental labour.

This has brought great misfortunes to you and the country. But you must clearly realize that a protest is made not by people but by the truth of the universe in the minds of the people. Human history knows no power which has not been smashed to pieces by this protest.

You Must Bear Responsibility and Resign

South Korea has now become the focus of the world attention. This is not your fault alone, nor our fault alone. It is the quickening of the conscience of the whole mankind governing itself by itself and a warning of the eternal law governing the evolution of the universe. You must not make little of it. What is good is to correct mistakes. The only way of correcting mistakes is to bear responsibility in person.

You are now at the post of exercising the sovereignty of the people in their stead. We did not entrust this post to you but you yourself usurped it by force. Therefore, you must not stint yourself in bearing responsibility. We would like to admit your righteous indignation at the time of the May 16 coup d'etat.

If you are truly concerned for the eternal future of the nation and people, you must boldly make up your mind and resign from your post to provide the people with an opportunity of discharging the duty of turning evil into good in peace. Then the day will come which will bring joy to the country and to you. Otherwise, the inexorable law of history will not remain silent and this will bring great misfortunes to you and the country. We sincerely hope that this will never happen.

Strengthening of Unity and Cooperation in Accomplishing Common Cause against Imperialism and for Independence

The First Afro-Arab Summit Conference was held in Cairo from March 7 to 9. Present at the conference were heads of state and delegates of 30 Arab and African countries, representatives of national liberation movements from Africa and a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The conference discussed the problem of strengthening solidarity and cooperation of the Arab and African countries in the common struggle against imperialism, colonialism, racism and Zionism.

Adopted at the conference were a political declaration, Afro-Arab action programme, declaration on Afro-Arab economic and financial cooperation and a written agreement on organization and method for the realization of Afro-Arab cooperation.

In his message of greetings to the First Afro-Arab Summit Conference, the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung stressed:

"The First Afro-Arab Summit Conference will mark an important occasion of strengthening the unity and cooperation of the Arab and African peoples in accomplishing the common cause for the equitable solution of the question of the Middle East and acceleration of the complete liberation and unity of Africa against imperialism, colonialism, racism and Zionism."

The Summit marked an important turning-point in strengthening solidarity and cooperation among the African and Arab peoples.

The results of the conference conform with the desire and aspiration of the Arab and African peoples for freedom and liberation, independence and progress and are helpful to the accomplishment of the just cause of the peoples representing the new-emerging forces. At the same time, the results are a blow to the imperialists, colonialists, Zionists and racists pursuing a wild ambition of aggression in Africa and the Middle East.

The Korean people are rejoiced over the successful proceeding of the First Afro-Arab Summit Conference and its good results.

As is known, the African and Arab peoples are peoples of the countries of new-emerging forces and they are now advancing along the road of building a new life and new society as the masters of their own destinies. The community of their past positions and present struggle makes the Arab and African peoples desire solidarity and cooperation.

Meanwhile, imperialists and Zionists instigated by them are engaged in crafty manoeuvrings for aggression and intervention against the Arab peoples, and the Vorster and Smith racists of southern Africa, in tandem with imperialists, are incessantly perpetrating provocative acts against neighbouring countries and running riot to suppress the liberation struggle of the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa. The Zionists and the racists of southern Africa are forming a still more sinister conspiracy against the people's cause of liberation and against neighbouring countries. In the final analysis, they are trying to block the complete liberation of Africa and undermine the just cause of the Palestinian and Arab peoples.

Therefore, it is justifiable for the recent Summit Conference to have supported the liberation cause of the Arab and African peoples and denounced imperialism, colonialism, Zionism and racism and decided to take practical measures for strengthened solidarity and cooperation in the common struggle. These measures are of great significance in the struggle to put an end to the manoeuvres of aggression of the imperialists and Zionists in the Middle East, restore the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, stop the aggressive acts of the imperialists and the racial discrimination and provocations of the racists in Africa and to realize the decolonization of the African continent and its complete liberation.

Unity is an important guarantee that enables the Arab and African peoples to emerge victorious in their just struggle.

The Korean people will as always actively support and encourage the righteous struggle of the Arab and African peoples.

No force can check the onward movement of the people fighting for justice.

Ro Dong Mun

A Sufferer's Indictment

A Note Written by a South Korean Woman University Student (3)

First Torture

I was strait-jacketed in a kennel-shaped, small solitary cell stained with blood.

I could not make a "written confession".

My conscience did not allow me to make up a story contrary to actual fact and write it as they told me to.

A curfew siren wailed out long somewhere not far off. It made me almost mad. My mother must have been waiting for me to be back, anxiety preying on her mind. I was much distressed at this thought.

When I was a third-year student of a senior high school, my father who had been teaching at a middle school died from a fatal disease. Thenceforth, my mother had no one to depend upon but me, her only daughter.

She was in poor health by nature. Yet, for my schooling she sold off all goods and chattels—the fortune left by father and bought a small laundry with the money she got. And she ran it, working herself far into the night. This was how she sent me up to a higher educational institution and paid my school expenses.

She contented herself with frugal meals. But she always looked after me with tender care. She was even mindful of whether I was properly dressed, so that I might feel not a whit out of place when I was among the girls who had their daddies.

It may safely be said that my existence itself was the sum-total of my mother's joy and happiness.

Never before had she taken supper earlier than me even though I returned home late. If I was not back till late at night, she would turn out as far as the highway even in rigorous winter days and await my arrival.

That's the way my mother was. Her daughter as I was, she counted on me as on a son. When students staged demonstration in the streets or when policemen wildly swooped down on the parading students, my mother was on thorns, day in, day out, afraid lest I should be involved in a case and meet any disaster.

So this morning, too, she told me over and again to come back home straight after school.

This can be boiled down to the grandmotherly solicitude of a widow with an only daughter. As I grew up, my mother, though holding me dearer with satisfaction, worried over me more and more.

Well aware of her feelings, I refrained to the utmost from causing anxiety to her.

Herein lay the main reason why I could not actively participate in students demonstration like others.

I had done my best to bring even a slight degree of joy to my mother who remained single.

My meditation was interrupted by terrible man-beating sounds and piercing shrieks that proceeded from the adjoining chamber.

"You're a member of 'Minchongnakryon', aren't you?"

"You've undoubtedly sought to topple the Republic of Korea."

The voice was exactly the same as the one I heard when I was tried a little while ago.

Blood-curdling groans of people came into hearing from far and near the whole night. I sat up all night, pursued by uneasiness.

But I could not permit myself to put down a word to confess.

Next morning I was dragged out again.

The "four-eyes" snatched the sheets of paper from my hand. "A blank confession?" Muttering to himself, he glared fiercely at me.

In a trembling voice I told him once for all that I did not have a finger in the case of "Minchongnakryon" nor did I deliberate on matters for a sedition while receiving directives from the north.

"You're an ingrate, for certain. I've explained to your satisfaction. So you must follow my advice. Hey! Strip this girl naked. Show her a bit what the Central Intelligence Agency is like."

The way of talking of the glasses-wearer was quite different from what it had been a short while ago. It was virulent.

Three villains descended upon me.

I desperately resisted them so that I might not be divested of my clothes. Beating me black and blue, they made me half insensible. Then they tore clothes from body.

"Shall we strip her of this one, too?"

"Let her have on it just a moment."

I was thus forced to sit before them, left in short pants alone.

I was so mortified that I sobbed on, covering my face with both hands.

To tell the truth, the only thing that raced across my mind at that time was to take my own life.

"You minx! Why do you weep? Do you feel resentful?"

They surrounded me sitting square on the floor and began to flog me on the head, the waist and the breast.

I fell to the ground soon.

They loosely tied my legs with a thick rope. Then they gave a pull at the rope right opposite.

My naked body hung in mid-air head over heels.

It seemed to me that blood poured into my head.

After hanging me upside down,

they stuffed a towel into my mouth and forcibly poured pepper water into my nostrils with a kettle that was filled to overflowing.

Subjected to water torture, I fell into a swoon. They mercilessly pommelled me on the abdomen and the privates, with my drooping body hanging in the air.

Then they laid me down on the concrete floor and, stamping down my swollen belly with their boots, made me throw up.

I fell unconscious, feeling a gnawing pain. My throat smelled of blood.

I did not know how many hours have passed.

"We've used five buckets of water." Dimly hearing they say, I realized that I was not dead but still alive.

When I barely came to, feeling a sharp stab of pain all over the body, I saw four to five brutes whose inflamed eyes were riveted on me as before.

"You can now write down something to confess, can't you?"

A man who looked like a chunk said, dragging me by the hair and lifting me up onto the chair.

At that time I could not stir an inch nor had I energy to reply.

"You're ready to write the confession?"

When I was gasping for breath, unable to answer, he dragged me like a dead dog and again flung me into a kennel-shaped cabin as though throwing a worn-out strawbag.

"Out with it by the evening as we demand! If not, we won't spare your life this time!" they roared.

On account of the torture, the whole body was bruised, dabbled in blood and began to swell.

I got giddy like a vertigo sufferer.

I was almost out of breath. Attacked with fever, my whole being burnt up like a fireball. My consciousness became dimmer and dimmer. I bit my lips not to lose my senses.

My right-hand collarbone and a left-hand rib were broken during the first torture.

The whole frame smarted and sored. All joints benumbed, I could not sit up nor could I lie down. But they, goggling their eyes, yelled, "Sit and write the confession."

I seated myself on the ground with difficulty, leaning my body covered all over with wounds against the wall.

The mere sight of the sheets of paper and pen put before me to wring a confession from me was enough to send a chill down the spine.

My candid friends and I had cultivated our minds and conceived an ideal, swapping our experience on the pursuits of study and giving each other's impressions of the new books we read. How can this be considered a "seditious move"?

To train our body and soul and foster intimacies among schools and among friends, we climbed mountains, appreciated music pieces and chatted with each other at tea houses. How can this be regarded as an activity for the overthrow of the government, the activity based on the directives from the north?

What an outrageous utterance and a robber's logic it is!

Memorious days vividly appeared in my mind like scenes of flashback, the days when my dear friends and I lamented over the suffocating realities of present-day south Korea under the revitalized system and ardently called for freedom and democracy as we tred on fallen leaves at palace gardens, looked at the blue sky mirrored in the lake on the summit of a mountain or took a rest under the green foliage on Mt. Soyo.

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